

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:) Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned
)
BESING, QUENT D.) Examiner: Not yet assigned
)
Serial No.: Not yet assigned)
)
Filed: Herewith)
)
Atty. File No.: 1623US)
)
Title: A SAFETY SYRINGE SEALING)
SYSTEM AND METHOD OF USE)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS
BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES
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ON JANUARY 11th, 2005.

Barbara A. Krisch
BARBARA A. KRISCH

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

For entry into the U.S. National Stage from the PCT, the above-identified national stage application is concurrently being amended as follows. Claims 8-12, 17 and 25-31 are not being entered and are therefore cancelled from examination, Claims 32-33 are being added, and Claims 1, 3-7, 14-16 and 18-24 are being amended. Accordingly, 20 claims (Claims 1-7, 13-16, 18-24 and 32-33) are initially being presented for examination. Of those 20 claims, only three (Claims 1, 14 and 20) are independent. Thus, no filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16(b) & (c) are believed to be due.

The above-mentioned revisions of the claims are reflected in the listing of the claims which may be found on pages 2-6 of this correspondence. To assist the Office, a clean copy of the presented claims follows on pages 7-10 of this correspondence.

It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early notice of allowance is hereby requested. Should the Office believe that a telephone conference would expedite allowance, the Office is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,
Mallinckrodt, Inc.

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